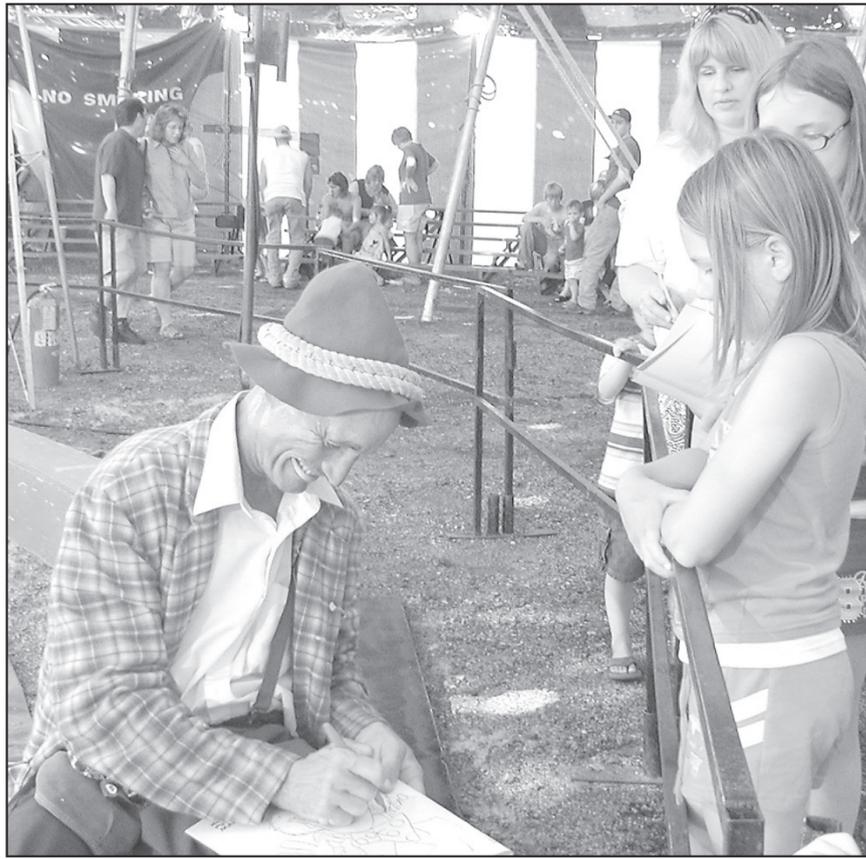


Clownograph



Chico the Clown, an entertainer with the Culpepper Meriweather Circus, signed autographs for his young fans during intermission of Tuesday evening's performance under the big top at Elmwood Park.

— Telegram photo by Sherry Hickman

Resident honored for years of service

Charlene Weskamp, a Chief Program Technician with the Farm Service Agency in Norton, was recognized Wednesday for 30 years of service.

Mrs. Weskamp began her career on March 13, 1978, as a Program Assistant for the office under its prior name, Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service.

She said, "I really like my job — and I have a sincere regard for all the farmers I work with."

Executive Director of the Norton office Vesta Hobbs said, "The Norton Farm Service Agency office has been fortunate to have the continued experience and dedication of a highly qualified person like Charlene. She has won numerous meritorious awards and recognition for her outstanding work performance."

Mrs. Weskamp said, "I'm eligible to retire, but I'm not even thinking about it."

She and her husband, Andy, have been married 48 years and have three children, Daniel Weskamp, Nixa, Mo., Andrea Buchmeier, Littleton, Colo., and Dominic Weskamp, Springfield,



Charlene Weskamp celebrated 30 years with the Norton County Farm Service Agency by doing what she loves — her job.

— Telegram photo by Carolyn Plotts

Mo. They also have eight grandchildren. Both are natives of McCook, Neb.

Together they manage several rental properties they own in Norton.

Her other interests include:

church activities at St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, being president of Legion of Mary, being a member of 20th Century Study Club, aerobic exercise, making rosaries and Creative Memories scrapbooking.

Not enough money for repairs

By CYNTHIA HAYNES
c.haynes@nwkansas.com

Norton County has some money to rebuild and repair bridges — but not enough.

Steve Berland of BG Consultants, the county's engineering firm, told the commissioners on Monday that there is \$165,000 left in the bridge project funds. This money can only be used to replace bridges, he said.

However, that isn't enough to even fix the Stinger Bridge also known as OS186, which is two miles east of Edmond and 1/2 mile south of K9.

Mr. Berland suggested that the county resubmit the bridge to the state as part of its next five-year work plan.

Norton County has been very good at using its allotments from the state to fix its bridges, he said. However, there are counties which haven't used theirs. Some larger counties are buying up those allotments, he said.

"You always have more than your share of projects," he told the commissioners. "You want to stay in line (for the money.)"

Commissioner John Miller said that he had been told at meetings in Colby and in Topeka, that the money will be going to the eastern, high population counties.

"You can buy the right to the money from others," he said. "But we don't have the money to do that."

In other business, the commissioners

- Talked to Noxious Weed Supervisor Reggie Beckman about spraying weeds near organic fields. Only the edges of the road are sprayed. Mr. Beckman said, but he said he would check the area in question and report back to the commissioners.

- Heard from Solid Waste Supervisor Curt Archibald that the permit renewals for the landfill had been filled out and turned over to BG Consultants of Manhattan, the county's engineers, to be sent in to the state.

- Asked Mr. Archibald to attend an electronic waste meeting in Osborne on June 18.

- Learned that the county isn't taking electronic waste for recycling yet. Mr. Archibald said that

the company, which is to take the waste for recycling, hasn't gotten its permits yet and he doesn't want to have a trailer full of stuff with no place to take it.

Any old televisions or computers brought in now will have to go into the trash pit, he said, and the people who bring it in will have to pay to dump the stuff.

- Learned that County Health Nurse Gina Frack has been trained and certified to package and ship diagnostic specimens, like blood and urine, and she can train others.

- Accepted a bid from Mortensen Computer Services of Norton for a new laptop for the county health department for just under \$1,800.

- Agreed to pay \$900 to hire part-time summer help for the Norton County Extension Service office.

Livestock producers aided

Bill R. Fuller, State Director of the USDA Kansas Farm Service Agency, said Wednesday that certain acreage enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Program is available for haying and grazing after the primary nesting season.

"This authorization provides relief for many Kansas livestock producers," said Fuller. "The high price and demand of commodities has significantly impacted the Kansas livestock industry."

More than 2.5 million acres of CRP land in Kansas will be eligible for this critical feed use.

Conservation Reserve Program acreage in all Kansas counties that is fully established and devoted to the following CRP practices will be eligible:

- CP1, Established Permanent Grasses and Legumes
- CP2, Established Permanent Native Grasses
- CP4B, Permanent Wildlife Habitat - Corridors
- CP4D, Permanent Wildlife Habitat
- CP10, Vegetative Cover
- CP18B, Established Permanent Vegetation to Reduce Salinity
- CP18C, Established Permanent Salt Tolerant Vegetative Cover

Participants must leave at least 50 percent of eligible CRP acreage unharmed for wildlife. Grazing can be conducted at 75 percent of the Natural Resources Conservation Service recommended stocking rate on 100 percent of the eligible acres or at 100 percent of the stocking rate on 75 percent of the eligible acres.

Environmentally sensitive land such as wetlands, buffers, and filter strips are not eligible for haying or grazing, along with acreage

with useful life easements and land within 120 feet of a permanent water body.

Haying and grazing cannot begin until July 16 and must end by November 10. Haying and grazing is not allowed on the same acreage. HCRP participants may sell the hay, or use their CRP acreage for their own use or lease to any other individual. No payment reduction will be assessed, but CRP participants will be required to pay a \$75 fee per contract to modify their contract to allow haying and grazing in 2008.

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'Just say no' to this latest scam

"Just say no," was former First Lady Nancy Reagan's advice to the nation's young people when confronted with drug use.

Now, for our older residents — here in Norton and elsewhere — maybe that piece of advice from Mrs. Reagan so many years ago, could be applied today to what Sandy Praeger, Commissioner of Insurance, calls a "company settlement" scam whereby a phone solicitation promising settlement money supposedly offered by a large insurance company has unfolded.

Commissioner Praeger's department has identified at least one Wichita-area woman who sent money to persons in Canada and Texas for release of so-called settlement funds from a lottery scam. Through phone calls from a purported insurance agent of a large national company, the woman was told 11 times to send money. The woman was not a policyholder of the company but had been a victim of the lottery scam several years ago. Nine of the 11 wire transfers were to the

same address in Canada.

The same "agent," according to Mrs. Praeger's office, made calls to the woman each time. A man with the same name has been identified on a consumer alert in the state of New York on a similar type of solicitation. The woman reported the solicitation after the wire company identified one of the fund receivers in Canada as being listed on a scam alert.

"It is essential for Kansans to be alert and vigilant against these fraudulent activities," Commissioner Praeger said. "In this case the perpetrators came back to a victim of another scam and used that to defraud her again."

"We urge people to follow the 'Stop. Call. Confirm' method for evaluating any insurance solicitations you believe are suspect,"

the commissioner said. "Stop the call until you can find out more by **Calling** our department's Consumer Assistance Hotline to **Confirm** the information you received over the phone."

The department's Consumer Assistance Hotline is 800-432-2484. More about fraudulent insurance activities can be found on the department's Web site: www.ksinsurance.org, under the "Anti-Fraud" link at the top of the home page.

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Public Auction

Home and Personal Property

Thursday, June 12, 2008 @ 6:30 p.m.

604 "O" Street, Beaver City, NE



As I am moving closer to family, the following modern 2-bedroom home and personal property will be sold at auction at the residence located at 604 "O" Street - Beaver City, NE -- Legal Description: E 1/2 of Lot 16 and all of Lot 17 and 18; Block 22 of Original Town of Beaver City, in Furnas County, NE.

Description of Property: The property consists of a modern 2-bedroom ranch-style home w/attached single car garage. The home was originally built in 1966 with 1064 sq. ft. of living space, and an attached garage with 392 sq. ft. The home has central-air, forced air Amana 90 furnace and a 40 gallon water heater. The bedrooms have large closets. The large kitchen has solid wood cabinetry and several appliances including an Amana dishwasher, refrigerator, ceramic top stove and a built-in Sharp carousel microwave oven and a garbage disposal. The laundry room is located between the bedrooms, with a lot of built-in cabinet space. The vented bathroom has a large walk-in shower. There are two unattached storage sheds on the property and the lawn has an underground sprinkler system. The property is well landscaped and has been well maintained.

ESTIMATED SALE PRICE \$30,000 - \$40,000

Real Estate Taxes: 2007 and prior (Paid); 2008 pro-rated to closing (2007 Real Estate Taxes \$858.13)

Terms of Sale: 20% down payment day of sale with balance upon closing and delivery of a marketable title and warranty deed. Owner's title insurance policy will be divided equally between Buyer and Seller. Buyer must secure financing prior to sale.

Open House: There will be an open house to view the property from 2 - 4 p.m. on Sunday, June 8, 2008.

•• Comments: This is a very well maintained and highly efficient property. If you are looking for a smaller home for a starter home or a retirement home, you will want to attend this sale. For more information on the property, contact Valley Real Estate, 327 Ogden St., Oxford, NE (308) 824-3270; Duane Murdoch, Broker @ (308) 991-7842 or Mary Ann Broker, Sales Associate @ (308) 991-5346. Valley Real Estate and their Agents are Agents for the Seller.

Also Selling Personal Property consisting of Furniture, Appliances, Tools, Specialty Items, Kitchen Supplies and Miscellaneous Items.

Joyce L. Stratton, Owner

AUCTIONEERS

Doug McCann
Edison, NE
308-827-3375

Duane Murdoch
Oxford, NE
308-991-7842

VALLEY REAL ESTATE

308-824-3270 / Cell: 308-991-7842

Duane Murdoch, Broker